

DRAWINGS

Attached please find formal replacement FIGS. 1-5 for the originally-submitted FIGS. 1-

5. The new formal replacement figures add no new matter.

REMARKS

Claims 17-41 are pending in this application. Attached hereto is a complete listing of all claims in the application, with their current status listed parenthetically. By this Response, no claims have been amended, cancelled or withdrawn.

Previously Submitted Preliminary Amendment

Attached as **Exhibit A** is Applicant's previously submitted Preliminary Amendment, and attached as **Exhibit B** is Applicant's return receipt postcard, indicating USPTO receipt of the Preliminary Amendment on July 18, 2003.

Applicant notes that the Examiner's Office Action is directed to claims 1-16, which were cancelled in the Previously Submitted Preliminary Amendment. As the Examiner's Office Action is directed to cancelled claims, Applicant cannot respond.

Applicant also notes the instant application is a divisional of co-pending U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/480,837, filed January 10, 2000, which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/393,122, filed September 10, 1999, now U.S. patent 6,944,148.

Drawing Changes

Attached please find formal replacement FIGS. 1-5 for the originally-submitted FIGS. 1-5. The new formal replacement figures add no new matter.

In the Specification

Applicant amends the instant specification to include a paragraph from U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/393,121, now U.S. patent 6,597,683, that is incorporated by reference in the instant application, at: page 10, lines 3-5; page 25, lines 9-11; and in other locations.


Conclusion

Applicant believes that this Response has addressed all items in the Office Action and now places the application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance of claims 17-41 at an early date is solicited. Applicant submits a Petition for a three-month extension of time with an accompanying check for \$510.00. Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

June 22, 2007

Date



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EXHIBIT A